

Please reconsider the media industry's request to limit the rights of consumers and render their existing and future equipment incompatible via the proposed "broadcast flag". Technological protection measures like these are seldom effective for very long, as other methods of distributing content are found and exploited.

The digital age poses many challenges, but none of them are going to be met by pandering to special interest groups such as the RIAA and MPAA. Limiting the fair use rights of consumers with narrow and troublesome legislation such as the DMCA and now the "broadcast flag" proposal have had little effect except to burden the court system with frivolous cases.

I encourage you to place the rights of the people of the United States first, and not endorse the "broadcast flag" initiative. History has shown repeatedly that technological innovation and the economic growth that accompanies it are significantly hurt by such initiatives.

Thank you for your attention.